



ST. LEO THE GREAT
PARISH & SCHOOL

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 20, 2020

Father James P. Schmitz
Pastor
Father James J. Vesely
Retired

4940 Broadview Road
Cleveland, Ohio 44109



PARISH STAFF:
216.661.1006

Father James Schmitz, Pastor
jschmitz@leothegreat.org

Deacon Patrick & Joan Berigan
pberigan@leothegreat.org
jberigan@leothegreat.org

Mary Lou Hauck, Office Manager
mlhauck@leothegreat.org

Brenda Basalla, Business Manager
bbasalla@leothegreat.org

Mickey Stitt, Music Director
mstitt@leothegreat.org

Mary Piechowski, Associate Musician
mpiechowski@leothegreat.org

RECTORY/OFFICE HOURS:

Monday through Friday ~ 9:00AM—3:00PM

Saturday ~ Noon—5:30PM

Sunday ~ 9:00AM—12:30PM

SCHOOL STAFF:
216.661.2120

Denise Burns Principal
dburns@leothegreat.org

Eileen Breitmeyer, School Secretary
ebreitmeyer@leothegreat.org

Jennifer Robinson, Preschool Director
jrobinson@leothegreat.org

Joann Deranek, Director of Religious Education (DRE)
jderanek@leothegreat.org

Cindy Funari, Tuition Manager
cfunari@leothegreat.org

SCHOOL HOURS:

Monday through Friday/School Day ~ 8:00AM—2:45PM

Main Office ~ 7:30AM—3:30PM

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKENDS

Saturday Vigil ~ 4:00PM

Sundays ~ 8:00AM and 11:00AM

WEEKDAYS

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday ~ 8:30AM

Thursday - Communion Service ~ 8:30AM

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

8:30AM and 7:00PM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Individual confessions can be heard after Mass by request or any time by appointment.

NEW TO THE PARISH? WELCOME!

New parishioners and those moving from the parish or changing address are asked to contact the Rectory office.

BAPTISMS

Parents desiring Baptism for their children are asked to contact the Parish Office to make arrangements.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Preparations and arrangements must be made at least 6 months in advance with a priest. Only then can a wedding date be confirmed.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?

If you are curious about becoming Catholic or have questions about the Catholic Faith, please call the Rectory.



DOWNLOAD OUR MOBILE APP!

Read the latest bulletin, Pastor's blog and find other useful information on your mobile device.

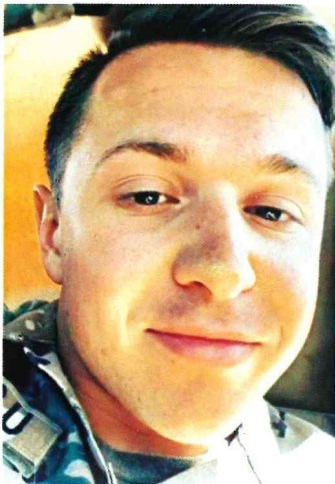
Instagram @leothegreatorg

Facebook—leothegreatorg

Twitter @leothegreatorg



In Loving Memory of



SGT. RILEY C. BRANDT

Born: January 30, 1998

Entered Into Rest: November 28, 2020

Services: Monday, December 7, 2020

Ripepi Funeral Home – Parma, Ohio

Committal with Full Military Honors:

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Does the world realize that it is waiting? As we go about all of the busyness of our lives and entertain our distractions, there are many holes and gaps in our lives that need to be filled. We are always wanting more, but not really sure what that “more” needs to be. Fulfillment, happiness, contentment, and true satisfactions are fleeting occurrences and often come to us in illusive ways. What we think is the ultimate fix to our anxious emptiness really is only a fancy trend that we entertain. The world does not realize any more today than it did over two thousand years ago that it is waiting for a Savior. We need a Savior. We need to see and embrace the God who has broken into history and become one with us. It is this union of God and man that sets us on a straight path, orders our relationships, establishes proper focus and goals, and tells us whose kingdom we really are meant to serve. The world does not know how truly lost it is. Do you realize how lost you are and that the One you need most is here among us and within your grasp?

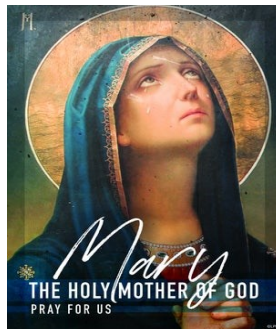


Reminder: There is still no obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. This includes Christmas & New Years.



CHRISTMAS EVE
Thursday, December 24th
4:00pm in Church with overflow to Lux Hall (gym) for livestream with communion.

CHRISTMAS DAY
Friday, December 25th
8:00am & 11:00am



New Year's Eve & Day
SOLEMNITY OF MARY,
MOTHER OF GOD

Thursday, December 31st
8:30am – Communion Service
Friday, January 1st
8:30am - Mass

ST. LEO THE GREAT - CLEVELAND, OHIO

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...



Bob McLaughlin, Annamae Sironen, Glenn "Joe" Hess, Gary LaBuda, Jeanette Klaehn, Carol Rucinski, Pat Chopka, William & Amelia Rebello, Louise Horvath,

Diane Kalus, Marie Stankiewicz, Irma Zappitelli, Dianne Toronski, Linda Debaltzo, Anthony Arlia, Jeanne Karasek, Denise Sisley, Don Donelon, Larry Kuznik, Antoinette Jakosh, Ralph Mlady, Ralph Rath, Joseph Mackey, John Sofcheck, Roger Horvath, James Cook & Cherie Seitz.



Our NEW Great Sweepstakes weekly drawing will start January 1, 2021.

We are now selling tickets. Forms are available at the Rectory Office or our website leothegreat.org.

THEY MAKE A GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT!

The drawing will go from January 1, 2021 thru November 10, 2021 (Feast of St. Leo). There will be (44) \$100 Weekly Drawings, (5) \$200 Special Drawings and (1) \$1,000 Super Drawing on the Feast of St. Leo on November 10, 2021.

Every week we pray for those discerning a vocation in religious life.

**George Peko
St. Paschal Baylon
Highland Heights**

Aspirant - Diaconate Program



Pray that he may continue to persevere and that others may respond to God's call.

Parish Support

Sunday, December 6th

Collection	\$ 7,020.00
WeShare(online).....	\$ 2,497.50
Total.....	\$ 9,517.50

Capital Improvement (November, 2020)...	\$ 1,256.00
SVDP (November, 2020)	\$ 1,130.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!



Monday, December 21st - St. Peter Canisius
8:30am +Therese Mayfield (Eva Bunosky)

Tuesday, December 22nd - Late Advent Weekday
8:30am +Mary Pavlick (The Pavlick Family)

Wednesday, December 23rd - St. John of Kanty
8:30am +Carmella Shrader (Mike & Renee Izzo)

Thursday, December 24th - CHRISTMAS EVE
4:00pm *In Church and Livestreamed in the Gym*
People of the Parish

Friday, December 25th - NATIVITY OF THE LORD
8:00am People of the Parish
11:00am People of the Parish

Saturday, December 26th - St. Stephen
4:00pm +Edward Gorczyca (Gorczyca & Vrcan Families)

Sunday, December 27th - The Holy Family
8:00am People of the Parish
11:00am Ruthanne Lennox (Chris Rath)



First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

Today's passage refers to the "ark of God" which was a wooden chest overlaid by gold, where the stone tablets of the 10 Commandments were kept. King David, rich and comfortable in his palace, felt the Ark deserved to be housed in similar splendor. God will tell David that a physical building is not as important as the "house" (that is, the dynasty) of David. Christians have seen this prophecy fulfilled in Christ, who was born of the House of David.

Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27

Our second Scripture reading is the conclusion of Paul's long letter to the Romans. It is one sentence, and it is very much like a toast offered to God. In effect, Paul is saying that it all comes down to this: We should give thanks to God that salvation is available to all people through faith in Jesus Christ.



Readings for the week of December 20, 2020

Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 /Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

Monday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1Sm 2:1,4-5, 6-7,8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66

Thursday: *Vigil:* Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25

Friday: *Day:* Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18

Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22

Next Sunday: Genesis 15;1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40.

ST. LEO THE GREAT- CLEVELAND, OHIO

Dear Parishioners,

On this 4th & final Sunday of Advent, I want to let you know about our Christmas Confession & Mass Schedule for this year of the pandemic. I know that many like to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation before Christmas, however I ask you to keep in mind that due to social distancing requirements and the unavailability of priests like Fr. O'Grady to help us with confessions this year, opportunities for the sacrament will be limited. During the pandemic, I have asked that you either make an appointment with me on our website for confession, or to simply ask me if I am available to hear your confession after one of the weekday or weekend Masses. These are still options for you but I do also ask that you consider the words of Pope Francis earlier this year when the question of the necessity of confession came up during the lockdown. He said, *"Do what the Catechism (of the Catholic Church) says. It is very clear: If you cannot find a priest to confess to, speak directly with God, your Father, and tell him the truth. Say, 'Lord, I did this, this, this. Forgive me,' and ask for pardon with all your heart."* Make an act of contrition, the pope said, and promise God, 'I will go to confession afterward, but forgive me now.' And immediately you will return to a state of grace with God."

Secondly, I will announce at all the Masses this weekend our Christmas Mass schedule and it is also posted on our website and included in our greeting when you call the rectory office. If you come to the 4pm Mass on Christmas Eve, please try to park in the rectory office parking lot if you are able. When we have determined that the church is at capacity, we will then direct others to park in the lot closest to the school & gym buildings and to attend Mass in Lux Hall where the 4pm Mass in the church will be live-streamed. We will have Eucharistic ministers bring over Holy Communion.

There will be no 7pm or 10pm Mass on Christmas Eve. On Christmas Day, we will continue to have the 8am and 11am Masses in the church. Of course all of these Masses will be live-streamed on our website as well as through our YouTube, Twitter & FaceBook accounts.

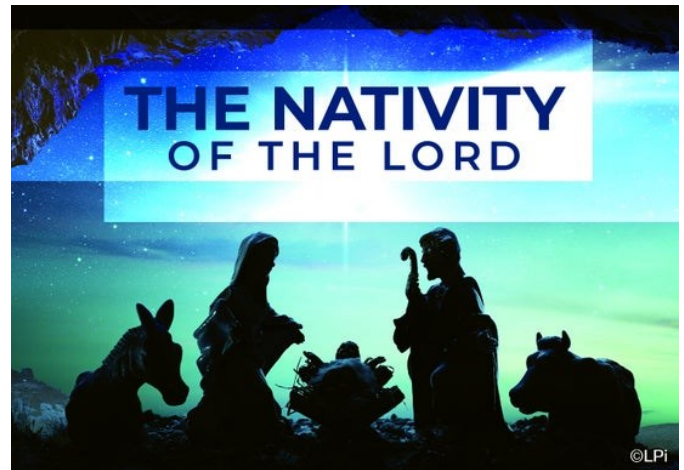
We have more 2021 Breaking Bread books for you to take home and keep (you're welcome to bring them with you to Mass but please be sure to take them back home with you). We are ordering additional ones in case those we have provided this weekend run out again.

Congratulations to Grace Stanek as she receives her First Holy Communion during the 11am Mass this Sunday! What a wonderful time of year to receive the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

Please visit our website for an Advent message from Bishop Malesic as well as additional resources for Advent & Christmas from the Diocesan website.

Just to backtrack a little bit, on Thanksgiving Day, I was able to enjoy a wonderful meal at my sister Janet's home in Akron, along with my sister Judy. I was also able to meet Janet's first grandchild and my first great-nephew, Logan Christopher, who was born about 6 months ago. I also had my first great-niece born this past year too. So these were the highlights of 2020 for me. My step mother Mildred also turned 101 last Saturday. That's a lot of Christmases she has celebrated...and a lot of gifts received. What a gift she is to my dad & to all of us.

Fr. James Schmitz



This Christmas, while you are giving and receiving gifts and hopefully spending time with those you love, may you take the time to cherish the true gift that came to us over 2000 years ago and continues to call us to this day: Jesus. Let us be grateful beyond measure for this gift above all gifts, let us continue on our journey, and let our lives give testimony to the one who leads us.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



Oplatki is now available in the rectory office for a donation of \$2.00.



WE WILL BE CLOSED ON:

Thursday, December 24th —Christmas Eve
Friday, December 25th—Christmas Day
& Saturday, Dec. 26th

We will reopen at 9:00am Sunday, December 27th.

Thursday, December 31st—New Year's Eve
Friday, January 1st— New Year's Day

We will reopen at 12 Noon, Saturday, January 2nd.

REMEMBRANCE TREES

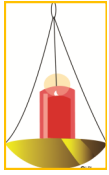


Ornaments in remembrance of loved ones will be available before and after all of the Masses this weekend, **December 19th and 20th ONLY**. Names of loved ones can be written on the ornaments and hung on the trees in the sanctuary for the Christmas season. The ornaments can be taken home in January at the conclusion of the Christmas season. If a loved one passed away earlier this year, their name has already been placed on an ornament and will be added to the tree.

ST. LEO THE GREAT - CLEVELAND, OHIO

SANCTUARY CANDLE INTENTION

December 20th to January 2nd



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Tyler Larson Hicker

From: The Larson Family

CONGRATULATIONS...

to those who made the Honor Roll from

HOLY NAME HIGH SCHOOL



Emily Graves

Jamie Ayala

Santina Giammarco

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



Christmas time is that time of the year for reflecting on all the good we have been blessed with and a time for holding family and friends close. But for many in our community this special day is spent quite different. Please pray for peace

in our world, but also remember that “peace” means not being hungry or alone, cold or homeless, sick or afraid. Help your St. Vincent de Paul Outreach Organization give our neighbors that true sense of peace with a donation in the Poor Boxes or put your donation in an envelope marked “SVPD” and drop it in the collection box or take it to the Rectory. Thank you very much for your help throughout the year and Merry Christmas to you all!



GIFT CARD PROGRAM



Buying our gift cards is an excellent way to help support our Parish. A complete list of gift cards is available at our office or on our website at leothegreat.org. Gift Cards can be used for your grocery needs, drugstore items, gas for your cars, or used as a simple thank you. **PLEASE SUPPORT THIS PROGRAM.**

BRING IT TO THE BIN



Did you know you can help our school earn \$\$? Just bring it to the bin. Bring your Mail, Newspapers, Hard and Soft Bound Books, Phone books, Brown Paper Bags, and Flattened Cardboard. Tell your family, friends and neighbors to save their paper too!

HELP THE HOMELESS THANK YOU



Your overwhelming generosity provided two SUVs packed full of donations for the homeless. Malachi Center thanks you so much for your generous gifts of duffle bag donations, money contributions and your ongoing support. With your help, Malachi Center is able to provide life changing services for children, men and women in need. It is a safe haven where the homeless, low income families and their children can build on their strengths and resiliency, access community resources and take positive steps toward their lives.

May God bless you,
Jeanne Sabol



CATHOLIC CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION
DIOCESE OF CLEVELAND

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION MONTHLY GRIEF SUPPORT

THIS Sunday, December 20th - 3:00pm

Catholic Cemeteries Association continues with our free monthly in-office grief support groups on December 20th with limited seating for social distancing. We offer a comfortable, private, and safe environment where you are free to talk about your grief. Meetings do not build off each other so you can stop in any month and fit right in. You do not even have to talk, but come and listen and be in the presence of those who understand. The December topic is “**The Gift of God’s Presence: You Never Walk Alone**” but discussions follow whatever is on your heart. December participants are asked to bring a picture or item that brings fond memories of their departed loved one. We meet the 3rd Sunday of every month from 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the following locations:

Holy Cross Cemetery, Brook Park (office) — Calvary Cemetery, Cleveland (office)

All Saints Cemetery, Northfield (office) — All Souls Cemetery, Chardon (office)

Meeting sites are sanitized and seating is arranged so everyone is at a safe distance. Participants are requested to RSVP so we can plan appropriate social distancing at each location. It is required that participants wear protective facial coverings. To RSVP or for questions, please contact **Rhonda** at 216-930-4866.



GREAT SWEEPSTAKES TICKETS
MAKE GREAT LAST MINUTE
CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

ST. LEO THE GREAT
PARISH & SCHOOL

The Great Sweepstakes - 2021

\$30 per ticket

You can W\$N Multiple Times January 1, 2021 thru November 10, 2021

DRAWING DATES—\$100

2021
January 4, 11, 18, & 25
February 1, 8, 15, & 22
March 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29
April 5, 12, 19, & 26
May 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31

Weekly Drawings

\$ 100.00

2021(cont.)
June 7, 14, 21, & 28
July 5, 12, 19, & 26
August 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30
September 6, 13, 20, & 27
October 4, 11, 18, & 25
November 1, & 8

DRAWING DATES—\$200

New Years Day 2021
Easter Sunday 2021
Mother's Day 2021

Special Drawings

\$ 200.00

Father's Day 2021
4th of July 2021

ST. LEO'S FEAST DAY
NOVEMBER 10, 2021

Super Drawing

\$ 1,000.00



ST. LEO THE GREAT
PARISH & SCHOOL

The Great Sweepstakes
Please Print

NAME: _____

CITY/STATE & ZIP _____

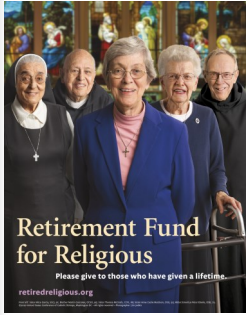
ADDRESS: _____

PHONE & EMAIL _____

Please return this stub with your payment of \$30. Please make checks payable to St. Leo the Great.

Questions? Please call the Rectory Office at 216.661.1006
or, visit our website at www.leothegreat.org

**2020 RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS
THANKS FOR GIVING!**



“We are conscious of the great generosity of the many benefactors who support the Retirement Fund for Religious each year,” says a Catholic sister. “Support from the fund has been a tremendous blessing to our retired sisters.” Thank you for donating to last week’s collection.



MERRY
Christmas



**JOIN BISHOP MALESIC FOR TELEVISED
CHRISTMAS MASSES**



Catholic Diocese
of Cleveland

Join the Most Rev. Edward Malesic, bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland, as he celebrates Masses from the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day that will be livestreamed or broadcast on local television.

The bishop will be the celebrant for the 4:30 p.m. livestream of Christmas Eve, Dec. 24 Mass. The Mass will be streamed live via the internet on the diocesan website, dioceseofcleveland.org. It also will be available on demand on the diocesan website after the broadcast.

On Christmas Day, Dec. 25, Bishop Malesic will celebrate Christmas Mass from the cathedral on WOIO – Channel 19 -- at 9 a.m. The Mass also will be available on demand on the diocesan website at dioceseofcleveland.org.

For a schedule of weekday and Sunday livestreamed Mass from the cathedral, which is in downtown Cleveland, visit the diocesan website, dioceseofcleveland.org.

O Come All Ye Faithful



ALL SAINTS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION....All three branches will be closed on Thursday, December 24th & Friday, December 25th for the Christmas Holiday. All branches will be **open normal hours (9 a.m. to 12 p.m.) on Saturday, December 26th**. Please visit our website at www.allsaintsfcu.com for hours and branch locations or call 216-524-0414, 216-587-0631, or 440-888-3663.

